

The Spirit

Volume 88 No. 2 February 2026



And now these three remain: faith, hope and love.

But the greatest of these is love.

~1 Corinthians 13:13~

A publication of St. John's United Church of Christ
Chambersburg, Pennsylvania

From Pastor Caroline

February may be the shortest month of the year, but that doesn't mean it isn't busy!

I am so pleased by the response within our congregation to choosing a "Star" word to guide your year, a way to walk with God in this season of life and faith. At our January gathering of Bible and a Beer, we shared our Star words for 2026: reflection; still; explore; love; and perseverance. Intentions matter. May the Spirit guide us, granting us wisdom and courage, and all that we need, for the living of these days.

As we consider where we are going, we celebrate what we have done and where we are now. Our Congregational Annual Meeting will be held after worship on Sunday, February 8, with a light lunch served in Room 116. A Zoom option is also available for those who wish to participate virtually. In addition to electing Council members, we will be voting on our "St. John's United Church of Christ Behavioral Covenant" (aka "Holy Manner").

I'm grateful for the many ways that we are loving God and loving our neighbors. A quick look at our online calendar and a walk around our property shows the many ways we are living out our mission and vision. The Little Free Pantry has been a wonderful addition to our property (see pg. 14); we have expanded our Adult Church School options (see pg. 21), we make a meal once/month for the kids at NETwork Ministries; we share local history and learn more about the place we call home (see pg. 16); and we worship God here and with others in our partner congregations (see the shared Lenten mid-week service schedule on pg. 20). The ideas shared in response to the Congregational Questionnaire are being reviewed by Council and many will be incorporated into the Strategic Plan for 2026-2027. It might be winter around here, yet I see plenty of signs of life, health, and growth.

We will begin a new liturgical season (Lent) with Ash Wednesday on February 18. Worship will be at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary. Our annual Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner will be on Tuesday, February 17 (details are on pg. 17). I'm excited to explore the parables of Jesus during Holy Week as our Wednesday night Lenten worship series with the Conococheague Mission Cooperative (CMC) churches. The Sunday night Bible study will begin to study the book of Esther on February 15 (a reminder that good does triumph over evil) and the Monday afternoon book study just started "Love's Braided Dance: Hope in a Time of Crisis." I'm excited to use Illustrated Ministry's "The Work of Imagination" in Sunday worship during this season. "Lent begins in the ache, the questions, the tension between love and loss. This is the work of imagination: to envision a world remade by mercy, to trust that healing is possible even in the shadow of empire, and to practice love that outlasts despair. Lent calls us into this holy labor—not as a solitary act, but as a communal path toward transformation" ("The Work of Imagination", © 2026 Illustrated Ministry).

I will be giving a "Travel Talk" on the river cruise I took on the Danube after worship on Sunday, February 15. Light refreshments will be provided. I look forward to sharing stories and pictures of my travels to Hungary, Austria, and Germany with you!

Peace, Pastor Caroline



MUSIC MINISTRY

All Glory, Laud and Honor

“All Glory, Laud and Honor” is an English translation by the Church of England clergyman John Mason Neale of the Latin hymn “Gloria, laus et honor” which was written by Theodulf of Orleans in 820. It is a Palm Sunday Hymn, based on Matthew 21: 1-11 and the occasion of Christ’s Triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

This hymn found its place in the repertoire of many Christian denominations, including the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Theodulf of Orleans wrote the lyrics in the early 9th century while he was in exile, and it was later translated into English and other languages, allowing it to gain widespread use. Its historical significance is rooted in its connection to the celebration of Jesus arrival in Jerusalem, with the waving of palm branches which is described in the Gospels. Sung traditionally to a melody that dates back to the medieval period, the hymn’s robust association with Palm Sunday services underscores themes of praise, reverence, and the acknowledgement of Christ’s kingship, resonating with the foundational beliefs of the Latter-day Saints about Jesus as the Savior and Redeemer. This hymn should be sung with great enthusiasm. **ENJOY!**

From Wikipedia
Gary Crum



First Fruit Offering

GOAL:

A MULTI-FOCUS FOR THE UPCOMING LENTEN SEASON

It seems almost impossible to have just exited from the Christmas/New Year season, and realize that just around the corner in mid-February, we begin Lent with Ash Wednesday on February 18. In previous years, we have focused our Lenten offering for just a month near the time when Palm Sunday and Easter fell. However, we are introducing a new model this year in utilizing a 3-month span of time in which you can contribute to our Lenten offering, which will go to the following recipients:

- 1) The Peru School Project
- 2) The African Mission Healthcare Project
- 3) United Church of Christ Disaster Emergency Fund

Beginning in February, we will have our First Fruits baskets at the back of the sanctuary on the first Sunday of February, March and April. All funds on those dates, along with donations made in envelopes or via checks mailed or presented to office for Lenten Offering, will go toward the total collected for these recipients. Via these offerings, we will be supporting education in Peru, medical care in Africa, and support in situations where individuals have suffered great loss in multiple locations via flooding, fire, earthquake, etc.

Details on each of these recipients will be highlighted over the 3-month time period. In addition to support to our local community, St. John's continues to reach beyond in loving support in acts of compassion and care.

-The Community Engagement Committee



{YOU ARE DUST}

Ash Wednesday

{AND TO DUST YOU SHALL RETURN}

**WORSHIP SERVICE
FEBRUARY 18
6:30 PM
SANCTUARY &
LIVESTREAMED**



St. John's Nursery School

This school year is certainly moving along quickly. We are continuously amazed at the growth and confidence we see in the children.

February is a busy month here at the Nursery School. We will start the month learning about the Winter Olympics. Children will even get to participate in some Olympic 'events' in Fellowship Hall.

We look forward to celebrating Valentine's Day at school. Our room parents are planning a fun day of Valentine-themed crafts, games, and snacks. Children will also have the opportunity to pass out valentines to their friends! It is a fun day for parents and children and we appreciate the time our parent volunteers put into these celebrations.

February is also Dental Health Month. We will have Dr. James Barra visit our classrooms to help us learn how to keep our teeth healthy. We thank him so much for spending time with us!

Lastly, Nursery School registration for the 2026-2027 school year will begin for current Nursery School and Church families on February 17th. Registration paperwork will be available on the Church website as well as in the Nursery School hallway. Registration will open to the public on March 2nd.

I pray that everyone is doing well and staying warm!

Kari Rock



Church Office Hours:

Monday - Friday
9:00am - 3:00pm

Church Office will be CLOSED

Monday, February 16th, 2026
in observance of Presidents' Day.

Office Administrator: Tonya Schwartz

Email: manager@sjucc1811.org

Office Assistant: Rochelle Moyer

Email: assistant@sjucc1811.org

Phone: 717-263-8593





Dear St. John's Family,

Thank you St. John's Family—for cards—nice to know someone is thinking of you! And for the wave to me in church! Brought happy tears to my eyes!

*God's Love to all!
- Bernice Tosten*

p.s. And Mike & Carol for flowers!





We're raising dough!

ST JOHN'S NURSERY SCHOOL

**February 2, 2026
4:00 pm to 8:00 pm
979 Norland Ave, Chambersburg, PA**

25%

OF NET SALES
WILL BE
DONATED*

Use code **FUND4U** at panerabread.com, in the Panera App,
or at the kiosk in-cafe.

Online orders placed all day at your event cafe will count toward your total sales.

Bring this flyer or show a digital copy to your
cashier when ordering at the cafe to ensure your
organization gets a portion of the net sales.

Panera
FUNDRAISING

*20% fundraiser: Up to 20% of net sales from your designated and registered fundraising event will be donated to your approved organization. Minimum sales of \$100 on the specified date, time and location required to receive 20% donation. 25% fundraiser: Up to 25% of net sales from your designated and registered fundraising event will be donated to your approved organization. Minimum sales of \$150 on the specified date, time and location required to receive 25% donation. General terms: Details on percentage of net sales to be donated and the minimum sales requirement will be provided during the event registration process. Fundraising events available only at participating US bakery-cafes. Fundraising event details and available dates and times for fundraising events will vary by bakery-cafe. Gift card purchases, catering orders, and orders placed on third party delivery sites are excluded and will not count towards the total net sales from your designated fundraising event. This offer will be void if flyer is distributed in or near the participating bakery-cafe on the night of the event. Fundraising events may be cancelled without notice due to abuse, error, fraud, computer error, electronic or technical malfunctions, or other unforeseen or unintended circumstances. Other restrictions may apply. For more information on how our fundraising events work, please visit: <https://fundraising.panerabread.com/faq>.

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Future Together Progress Report

*Thank you **so much** for your feedback, ideas, and suggestions in response to the Congregational Questionnaire! Council is reviewing what we received with an eye toward updating our Future Together Strategic Plan for 2026 and 2027.*

SPIRITUAL DEEPENING

- Pastor Caroline leads a weekly book study on Monday afternoons at 1:30 pm. Our current selection is “Love’s Braided Dance: Hope in a Time of Crisis” by Norman Wirzba. The group reads one chapter a week and enjoys a robust discussion. Each week’s reading assignment is listed in News in the Pews and the e-blast.
- The Sunday Night Bible Study is held at 8 pm via Zoom. The group is wrapping up their study of the Acts of the Apostles and selected the book of Esther to begin on February 15.
- The Wired Word class meets Sundays at 8:45 am in Room 116. Email Lloyd Beers to join the mailing list to receive the material in advance.
- The Upper Room class meets on Sundays at 8:45 am in Conference Room 111.
- A small group has formed to explore additional faith formation opportunities for adults. Look for more information to come and a special session on March 1.
- Diana Kongkeattikul writes a weekly devotional for our website. An opt-in email list is available via the office if you’d like to receive her reflection directly in your inbox.
- Henry Hopper leads a Chi Gong/Zazen silent body energy, and soulful meditation class on Mondays at 10 am in the Parlor Room 104. All are welcome to join.
- Yoga classes are held on Tuesday nights at 5:30 pm in Room 202. \$5/class.
- A new worship music group has formed with both vocalists and instrumentalists. Many thanks to these folks who are sharing their talents.
- Shared Lenten services with our partner congregations in the Conococheague Mission Cooperative (CMC) will begin on Wednesday, 25. Check out page 20 to see when and where these mid-week services will be held.
- Ash Wednesday worship will be held Wednesday, February 18, 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary. Remember: you are dust; to dust you shall return.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

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- Please see the Congregational Care article on page 13 for more about this work.

ENERGIZE PARTICIPATION

- The Pickleball court in Fellowship Hall has been well-received. Please contact the church office to reserve the court or consult the calendar for scheduled play times.
- Mike Marotte will be giving a presentation “Answering the Alarm in Chambersburg: Exploring the early days of the Chambersburg Fire Department” on Wednesday, February 4, 6 pm in Fellowship Hall. Light refreshments will be served.
- We were blessed to receive new members in October, November, and December. Eight adults now call St. John’s UCC their church home. Welcome!
- Make sure to save the date for our annual Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner for Shrove Tuesday: February 17, 5:30 pm. See page 17 for more details.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- We now have a Little Free Pantry (aka blessing box) located by the entrance to Fellowship Hall. To learn more, please read the article found on page 14.
- The adult church school class provides a meal for NETwork Ministries once a month, typically on the 4th Thursday. The next date will be January 29, 2026.
- Thank you for your generous response to the United Way Winter Warmth Drive! We helped many people in our community to stay warm, clean, and fed this winter.
- Lenten Project Recipients have been selected for 2026 and represent a variety of organizations and missions that serve people locally and globally.

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

- Additional opportunities to collaborate with Habitat for Humanity to serve both their mission and ours are being discussed by Council. Stay tuned!
- Our HVAC loan rate will reset in July 2026. Contributions toward Mission Possible, our HVAC campaign, are greatly appreciated as we work to pay off this debt.
- Work on the parking lot project will resume after Memorial Day.
- Jessica and Friends has seen tremendous growth with their day program, serving adults in the community with autism and intellectual disability.
- We have transitioned to a project-based model to work with Ghostwriter to pursue grants and sponsorship opportunities, rather than a monthly retainer. Grants have become more competitive over the last year and we want to be good stewards of the resources that the congregation has entrusted to us.¹¹
- End of year giving statements are now available by request from the church office.

CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, February 8, 11:30 am

Join us in Room 116 or on Zoom via video chat or call-in

Meeting ID 850 7568 9082 & Passcode 511978

Call in option: 646 558 8656 or 301 715 8592

(use Meeting ID and Passcode to join by phone)

Note: a “snow date” of February 15 has also been set

Meeting packets are available at the Welcome Center
and Narthex and by request from the church office.

Per our bylaws, “the Annual Meeting of the Congregation must take place within the first six weeks of each year. At this meeting, while reports on past activities will be received and recorded, the emphasis will be on planning for the future.” This year’s Annual Meeting will be held after worship on **Sunday, February 8**, with both an in-person and Zoom option.

Among the agenda items will be the approval of the slate of Council nominees and the vote to adopt the Behavioral Covenant “Holy Manners.” Thank you to everyone who reviewed this document and offered feedback to make it truly reflective of our congregation.

“Food for Thought from Finance”

A layperson from Media, PA, wrote in his church newsletter:

“Money flows through your life and touches every aspect. Although you only have so much control of how it flows into your life, how money flows out from your life, just like how you spend your time, reflects your values and what you hold precious.

We shouldn’t be embarrassed that it takes money to run a church—we should be happy to see that our financial support has created an extraordinary community that we value dearly.”

¹²

-The Finance Task Force: Jerry Thomason, Scot Orndorff, Lisa Fair, Pastor Caroline

St Johns United Church of Christ

February, 2026

Congregational Care

Just a reminder that our 2926 Congregational Annual Meeting will take place following Worship on Sunday, February 8, in Room 116. A light lunch will be provided. Your presence is requested.

February is a busy month... Valentine's Day, Presidents' Day, and the beginning of Lent. Also, our annual Pork and Sauerkraut Supper will take place on Shove Tuesday, February 17, at 5:30 p.m. The cost will be \$15 for adults, \$5 for kids (6-12) and FREE under 6. Carry-out is also available.

We are all delighted that Pastor Caroline was able to get away from her duties recently. She will be sharing her adventures and photos with us on February 15, following Worship in Room 116.

Our Care team has been busy visiting, calling, and sending cards to those folks who have difficulty attending church. We celebrate their dedication, time and Christian effort to bring some brightness into the lives of our brothers and sisters. Our team is always looking for other people to join us in our visitations.

- Eileen Shaffer, Connie Morrill-Hair, Jill Miller, Connie Strunk.



LITTLE FREE PANTRY

Located in Parking Lot B.
1811 Lincoln Way East Chambersburg, Pa



Located in
Parking Lot B
near rear entrance.
1811 Lincoln Way East
Chambersburg, Pa

Here's the Scoop on the
"Little Free Pantry"

In November 2025, Pastor Caroline and Tom Kinton met to discuss ways that we at St. John's UCC can help our neighbors who are experiencing food insecurity.

We wanted to explore ways that people who are already coming to St. John's might gain access to non-perishable food items. Tom built a "Little Free Pantry" and installed it by Parking Lot B, near the entrance to Fellowship Hall.

We also **need YOUR help** to support and sustain this initiative.

Due to the winter weather, we are seeking donations of dry non-perishable items (such as pasta, rice, cereal, etc.).

Thank you so much for your care and concern for our neighbors and community.

Church Activity Cancellations for Monday-Friday



- If CASD classes are cancelled all day, all church activities are also cancelled.
- If school is delayed, only morning church activities are cancelled.
- An early dismissal from school means all evening activities are cancelled.



SNOW! Is Sunday Worship cancelled?



- Check your email for a special E-Blast.
- Call the church office. Select Option 1 to hear a message.

See News-in-the-Pews

Join Us for

‘Answering The Alarm in Chambersburg’ with Mike Marolle

Exploring the early days of the Chambersburg Fire Department

1181 Lincoln Way East
Chambersburg, Pa
17202

Wednesday,
February 4th at 6pm
Fellowship Hall
(Lot B)





Rev. Caroline E. Saxton

TRAVEL TALK: RIVER CRUISE

Sunday, February 15 after worship
Room 116

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

St. John's United Church of Christ | 1811 LWE
Chambersburg, PA 17202

ST. JOHN'S UCC SHROVE TUESDAY PORK & SAUERKRAUT DINNER

February 17, 2026

5:30 pm

Dine-in or Carry-out

Includes:
Mashed potatoes
Cooked Carrots
Rolls
Applesauce
Dessert

\$15 Adults
\$5 kids (6-12)
Free for kids under 6

St. John's
United Church of Christ
1811 Lincoln Way East
Use Parking Lot B





“Save the Date” for St. John’s Blueberry Bliss Tea



Saturday, April 25, 2026 at 1:30 pm

St. John’s Fellowship Hall

Tea includes: salad, soup, scones,
savories, sweets, & pots of tea

Tickets are \$35 cash or check

Make sure you’re on the VIP email list
for early access to tickets!





ST JOHNS SPRING 2026

Starts Thursday April 9



- Beginners Class- 6-7 PM (*Swing/Foxtrot/Cha Cha/Tango/Line Dances*)
- Beyond Beginners 7-8 PM (*MORE-Swing/Tango/Cha Cha/Foxtrot/Bachata/Line Dances AND Rumba*)
- At St Johns Church 1811 Lincoln Way E, Chambersburg, PA 17202
- Learn how to dance – enjoy it the rest of your life ☺
- Dates: Thursdays- April 9, 16, 23, 30; May 7, 14.
- 6 Lessons for a total of \$35.00 per person. Pay first night cash or check.
- * Partner NOT required
- * To sign up contact Frank Hancock at fhancock@comcast.net OR Harold Collier- hcollier@comcast.net
- or call 717-241-4483 or text 717-448-7839

GREAT DANCERS

- George Washington
- John Wayne
- Jim Thorpe
- George Patton



Conococheague Mission Cooperative Midweek Lenten Worship Services

“THE PARABLES OF JESUS IN HOLY WEEK”

ALL SERVICES HELD AT 7 PM

- Wednesday, February 25, Calvary UMC
“Parable of the Two Sons in the Vineyard”
CLM Susan Snyder preaching
- Wednesday, March 4, St. John’s UCC
“Parable of the Tenants”
Pastor Caroline Saxton preaching
- Wednesday, March 11, Fayetteville
Otterbein Church
“Parable of the Wedding Banquet”
Pastor Bill Smith preaching
- Wednesday, March 18, Quincy UMC
“Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids”
CLM Loretta McClure preaching
- Wednesday, March 25, Calvary UMC
“Parable of the Talents”
Pastor Nancy Hale preaching

ST. JOHNS CHURCH -
1811 LINCOLN WAY EAST
CHAMBERSBURG, PA

JOIN US FOR THE UPPER ROOM

Adult Church School: Sunday School Restart

SUNDAYS
8:45AM
ST. JOHN'S CHURCH
CONFERENCE ROOM 111

Conversation will include the Bible verse, the authors' messages, the Thought for the Day, the prayer focuses, and your personal thoughts of the content.

Feel Good Yoga

at St. John's with Sue Collier

Tuesdays, 5:30 PM

Room 202

\$5.00

*Come and enjoy the
benefits of Feel Good Yoga*



St. John's United Church of Christ, 1811 Lincoln Way East, Chambersburg. Use Parking Lot B.

KEYSTONE CONFERENCE OPEN AND AFFIRMING WINTER GATHERING

A day of education for all our churches who are part of the ONA ministry and those who are considering! Hybrid (both in-person and Zoom)

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2026

Immanuel United Church of Christ

99 South Waverly Street

Shillington (Reading), PA 19607

Easy access from PA routes 10 and 222

8:30 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.

“God is doing a new thing” and “Nothing will separate us from the love of God”
Isaiah 43:19-21 and Romans 8:38-39.

There will be a speaker presentation with the same three workshops scheduled in the morning and afternoon. Breakfast and lunch provided. Please look for hotel suggestions, speaker, workshop, and reservation information soon.

Sunday Night Bible Study

Join us on Sunday nights
at 8 pm on Zoom for Bible Study!
We will finish up our study on the
Book of Acts of the Apostles on February 1.
We will start our study on the Book of **Esther**
on Sunday, February 15.

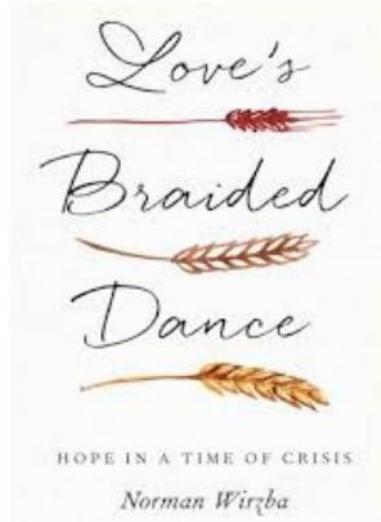
Check out News in the Pews & E-blast
for each week's reading assignment.

We encourage looking at a variety of translations;
Pastor Caroline is using the Common English Bible (CEB).

The link to join is included in the e-blast.

Monday Afternoon Book Study

Our current selection is “Love’s Braided Dance: Hope in a Time of Crisis” by Norman Wirzba. We read one chapter a week and have a robust discussion of the material. Check out News in the Pews for each week’s reading assignment. Everyone is welcome!



Camp Ministry Report

Camp Ministry members have been working on camp-based activities, events and the summer camp program. Our beautiful camp is the perfect place to gather, learn about nature, relax and get closer to God. Have you considered renting the camp for a day, a weekend or a week? Camp is the perfect place to gather with friends, team build with a group, enjoy a family reunion, walk the labyrinth in the woods, or hold a meaningful retreat.

Please, take a look at the Camp Rental tab on the church website for information and prices and then share with your family and friends.

Upcoming Camp events:

Camp Sunday is February 15. Come reminisce, sing camp songs, support our camp and promote this summer's camping season. Sponsor A Camper will be made using the envelopes you will find in our pews. Thank you!

Sicky Bun Sale will be in March 21st. Orders and payment will be taken for cinnamon sticky buns for \$12/dozen and \$7/half dozen before and after church on Sundays, March 8 and 15. Then pick up your "ready to bake" sticky buns on Sunday morning, March 22. Freshly baked sticky buns will also be on sale, after church, on March 22 or \$2 each. Email Mary Lee Yaukey (mlyaukey@comcast.net) if you want to join the fun of making the delicious buns on Saturday morning, March 21st..

Camp Clean Up – Help is always needed to get the camp cleaned and ready for the summer camping season. There will be a Saturday group cleaning date with the Boy Scouts where the focus is on the grounds and mainly with leaf removal. Throughout the spring, on weekdays and weekends, help is needed to clean cabins, the dining hall, kitchen, etc.

More details to come. 2026 Summer Camps – This summer there will be Camp Kum-Ba-Yah, a day camp, with one overnight option for grades 3,4,& 5 and Camp Noah, also a day camp, for grades K,1,& 2 will both run June 22-26. "Life's Learning" presenters, counselors, and lunch time helpers will be needed to operate the camp program.



FEBRUARY 16, 2026 | 6:30 PM

BIBLE & A BEER

Theological conversations

Rich discussion

Powerful testimony

Join us at 6:30 pm at
The Trojan Diner & Sports Bar!

1121 Lincoln Way E
Chambersburg, PA 17201

Bring your questions,
Invite your friends!



Ladies Luncheon

The group will continue to meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

Our February gathering will be Wednesday, February 11th
at 11:30 am at Hoss's Steak & Sea House.
(20 Falling Spring Road, Chambersburg, 17202).

No need to RSVP; just come and enjoy!

Mens Breakfast



We will be meeting **Thursday, February 5th**
at 7 am at Texas Lunch.
(108 LWW, Chambersburg, PA).

We look forward to seeing any and all for
February's Breakfast.

February Birthdays

02/02 Tom Harrison

02/03 Gary Crum

02/03 Dr. Donald Hendrickson

02/04 G Michael Bitner

02/04 Jolene H. McGinley

02/04 Kurt Widmann

02/05 Helen Douglas

02/06 Alma Dietrich

02/06 Maelynn Dietrich

02/06 Gary Patterson

02/07 Julie Dereef

02/08 Ernie Welch



02/09 Alex Bishop
02/10 Gregory St. Clair
02/11 Colleen Woy
02/12 Christopher William-Bunge
02/13 Richard Collier
02/19 Casimir Rzomp
02/19 Cynthia St. Clair
02/19 Marvin Zeger
02/23 Harold St. Clair
02/27 Allen Frantz
02/27 Sophie Hoger



Youth News

Youth Calendar of Events

February



- 1 Church School 8:45
- 6 Overnight at church 7pm
- 7 ??? Snow Tubing at Liberty Mtn Resort leaving Church at 10am
- 8 Church School 8:45
- 15 Church School 8:45
- 17 **Service Opportunity** Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner at church 5-7pm
- 20 Back up date for Overnight 7pm
- 21 Back up date for Snow Tubing 10am
- 22 Church School 8:45

Children's Corner is offered weekly during Worship

Help Needed!!!

The annual Pork and Sauerkraut dinner is just around the corner as we prepare for Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. Youth and their families are asked to help serve this dinner. The meal is scheduled for February 17th. Please let Roxanne know if you can help and plan to arrive by 4:45 if possible. Service hours will be awarded to the youth who work.

VBS Dates for 2024

Mark your calendars for July 19th- 23rd. See Roxanne to help.



Snow Tubing!!!!!



Our weather seems to be more questionable this year so we have set aside two dates for snow tubing. We will plan on Saturday, Feb 7th, leaving the church at 10am. Tubing from 11-1am then returning around 2pm. Permissions and current medicals are **only** needed if a parent is not going along. Waivers and medical forms will be needed for everyone tubing. These can be gotten from Roxanne. To order tickets I must have each persons' age and date of birth by Jan. 29th. The cost is \$48 and service hours may be applied. See Roxanne to see if you have hours. The back up date is Feb. 21st. An overnight at the church the night before each is offered if there is enough interest, expressed by the 29th. All plans are subject to prevailing weather conditions as the event approaches.

No Planning...just be ready!



Another snow related fun opportunity may arise; sledding/saucers/toboggins ...down the hill at Calvary UM Church, 150 Norlo Dr., Fayetteville. We have permission to use their hill on a Sunday after worship, if we get a big snow! This will be a last minute, spontaneous event so watch your texts and emails. If we do this we'll stay after worship, have pizza and then have snow fun from about 12:30 until parents pick up at Calvary, whenever parents want, but no later than 3pm. I must have current medicals on file, and permissions will be available on the day of.

Stay tuned!!!!

REFLECTIONS

That is the theme for our first St. John's Art Show and Silent Auction to benefit the SCAPP Food Pantry at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Fayetteville.

Due to the enormous talent we have seen in our youth, congregation, and family members of St. John's, we are planning a showcase of this talent beginning March 15th and on display in our lobby, until March 29th. Entries by anyone at St. John's and their families must be submitted by the end of February, with a statement of how their entry fits the theme.

Any form of expression is welcome, poetry, artistry, musical.....

Only those designated will be offered for bids in the silent auction, others will be just for admiration.

See Roxanne Davenport or Diana Kongkeattikul for more information.

Committee & Ministry Chairs 2026

Camp—*MaryLee Yaukey*

Children & Youth Ministry—*Roxanne Davenport*

Community Engagement—*Harold Collier*

Congregational Care—*Eileen Shaffer*

Facilities Ministry—*Tom Harrison*

Fellowship—*Sue McMurtray*

Finance—*Scot Orndorff*

Library—*MaryLee Yaukey*

Music Ministry—*Gary Crum*

Nursery School—*Linda Zeger*

Personnel—*Lisa Fair*

Prayer Shawl Ministry — *N. Erin Hartman*

Safe Church Compliance—Safe Church Compliance Steward, *Sarah Herbert*

Safe Church Response—Safe Church Compliance Steward, *Sarah Herbert*

Safety and Security—*Tom Kinton*

Spiritual Life—*Lloyd Beers*

Technology and Media Ministry—*Calvin Frantz*

Want to serve
on a Ministry or Standing
Committee?

These groups would
welcome you and
your talents!

Speak to these leaders or
Pastor Caroline today to
learn more and join them!

2026 COUNCIL

Moderator Team

Harold Collier, **Past Moderator**

Diana Kongkeattikul, **Moderator**

Harold Wissinger, **Moderator Elect**

At Large Members

Lloyd Beers Jr.

Tom Harrison

Eileen Shaffer, **Secretary**

Connie Strunk

Additional Non-Council Positions

Scot Orndorff, **Treasurer**

Jerry Thomason, **Assistant Treasurer**

Dick Rebok, **Authorized Check Signatory**

Susan Collier, **Head Deacon**

Dwight Sollenberger, **Head Elder**

Sarah Herbert, **Safe Church Compliance Steward**

Pastor

The Rev. Caroline E. Saxton

We will officially elect new members to Council positions at the Congregational Annual Meeting on February 8, 2026. Thank you to the hard work of the nominating committee: Diana Kongkeattikul, Connie Kaiser, and Connie Strunk!

**Sunday Worship will be at 10 am
(Offered In-Person and on YouTube)**

Communion Dates:

Sunday, February 1, 10 am (Sanctuary & Livestreamed)
Sunday, March 1, 10 am (Sanctuary & Livestreamed)



“To grow in love of God and neighbor”



**St. John's United Church of Christ
1811 Lincoln Way East
Chambersburg, PA 17202**

Phone: 717-263-8593 Fax: 717-263-9010

Website: www.sjucc1811.org



Office Hours: Mon -Fri from 9 AM -3 PM

³² *Give online! (scan the QR code)*